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IN THE CLAIMS:

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P1*
29. (Once amended) A jet-powered boat comprising a hull having a stern and a bottom, an outboard water jet propulsion system mounted to said hull, wherein said outboard water jet propulsion system comprises:

an engine;

B1
an exhaust housing pivotably mounted to said hull and supporting said engine, said exhaust housing having an exhaust gas passage; a thrust bracket arranged between said water jet propulsion system and said stern of said hull and comprising side walls arranged to receive the exhaust housing therein and prevent lateral rotation of the exhaust housing when the exhaust housing is situated therein;

an axial-flow pump unit attached to said exhaust housing, said axial-flow pump unit comprising a water duct, an impeller mounted to a generally horizontal impeller shaft and rotatable inside said water duct, and an exhaust gas passage in fluid communication with said exhaust gas passage of said exhaust housing; and

a drive train for coupling said engine to said impeller shaft for driving said impeller shaft to rotate during engine operation.

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P3*
B2
43. (Once Amended) A jet-powered boat comprising a hull having a stern and a bottom, an outboard water jet propulsion system pivotably mounted to said hull, and a thrust bracket arranged between said outboard water jet propulsion system and said stern of said hull, wherein said thrust bracket comprises a flat mounting plate that lies flat against said stern and a pair of side thrust walls extending generally parallel to each other and